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Palmdale man convicted in child welfare fraud case

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LOS ANGELES -- Los Angeles County prosecutors say a former state employee has been sentenced to 14 years in state prison for masterminding a child care fraud ring that bilked the system of more than \$1 million.

A district attorney spokeswoman says 40-year-old Demetrius Eugene was also ordered to repay restitution of more than \$1.4 million in Friday's sentencing hearing.

Eugene was found guilty and admitted guilt in multiple counts of perjury and grand theft. While he was an employee of the state Department of Incorporations, Eugene set up fronts for four home-based child care centers under the name Home Sweet Home Day Care Inc.

Along with family members and friends, Eugene had parents sign attendance sheets in exchange for kickbacks of roughly \$300 per child.

Co-defendant Kmond Day was acquitted.